Nippon Times

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OUR FORCES DOWN TEN ENEMY PLANES ATTACKING SABANG

Imperial Headquarters Reveals Hostile Task Force's Attempt To Hit Sumatra

In a communique issued at 4 p.m. on Friday, the Imperial Headquarters announced that an enemy task force appeared in the waters west of Sumatra Island on Wednesday morning and carried out an aerial attack on Sabang. Intercepting the enemy, Imperial Japanese Forces on the spot downed ten foe planes. Damage on the Japanese side was slight, the same communique revealed.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4 p.m. April 21

"An enemy task force appeared in the waters west of Sumatra Island on the morning of April 19 and air-raided Sabang. Intercepting it, our Units stationed there shot down ten enemy planes.

"Damage on our side was negligible."

To Cover Up Defeats

As counter-measures for the defeats on the Indo-Burma border area, some sort of operations in the Indian Ocean by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, commander-in-chief of the anti-Axis forces in Southeast Asia, has long been anticipated.

Under the command of Admiral Sir James F. Somerville, commander-in-chief of the British fleet in the Indian Ocean, an enemy task force, composed of one or two aircraft carriers was dispatched to the sea area west of Sumatra Island on the morning of April 19 when about 90 carrier-borne planes attempted to attack our base at Sabang, north of Sumatra Island.

As soon as report of the attacking enemy planes was received, crack Japanese Forces stationed at Sabang immediately contacted the foe attackers.

In the ensuing furious intercepting battle, the Japanese shot down ten of the enemy aircraft while damage on the Japanese side was extremely slight, as was announced by the Imperial Headquarters.

A calendar of the series of counter-offensives attempted by the anti-Axis air units against the Japanese bases in the Indian Ocean area since the latter part of March up to the present is as follows:

On the afternoon of March 24, three enemy small-sized bombers (Mosquitoes) came attacking the Andaman Islands area but were all repulsed by Japanese Units on the spot, which shot down one of the raiders.

On March 26, one giant four-engined enemy plane attempted to attack Simculoe, southwestern tip of Sumatra Island. Counter-attacking it, Japanese Units damaged the invader.

On the afternoon of April 13, the Japanese Units stationed at Port Blair in the Andaman Islands shot down three enemy planes out of 12 Consolidated B-24 bombers that came attacking our position.

3 Raiders Downed

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 21.—A combined formation of 116 enemy planes, consisting of bombers and fighters, made an unsuccessful raid on Rabaul, New Britain Island, on Wednesday.

Quickly intercepting them, Japanese Forces on the spot downed three raiders and damaged three others. The rest of the attackers were routed.

Damage on the Japanese side was negligible.

More Planes Bagged

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 21.—Japanese Units shot down three planes in an engagement with a total of 24 large-sized enemy aircraft that attempted to attack our position in the Mortlock Islands area on Wednesday morning.

All the other raiders were forced to flee in face of the furious anti-aircraft gunfire opened up by the Japanese.

No damage was suffered by our side.

Mereyon Attackers Routed

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 21.—Thirteen B-24 bomber planes attacked our position on Mereyon Island on Thursday morning. They failed to carry out any effective attack because they were beaten back by the Japanese Units stationed there.

No damage was reported on our side.

Truk Attack Fails

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC, April 21.—In two waves, about 17 B-24 bomber planes attempted to attack Truk Island on Wednesday night. Japanese Forces on the spot promptly intercepted the raiders and repulsed them.

No damage was suffered by our side.

People in Chungking Evacuate to Country After Air Raid Alarm

Special

LISBON, April 20.—Ferries, wharves and other traffic facilities in Chungking have been crowded with people and baggage since yesterday as more than 50,000 people tried to leave the city for the countryside in the wake of Chungking's first air raid alarm of the year, it is reported from Chiang Kai-shek's capital. The report said that Chungking authorities are now carrying out a house-to-house investigation to speed up evacuation. About 160,000 persons are expected to be evacuated the town within the next month.

IMPATIENT BRITISH RAP MOUNTBATTEN

Vagueness of Anti-Axis Communiques Signifies Japanese Success, Says Press

Domei

INDIAN FRONT, April 20.—The British press is evincing impatience over the empty promises of victory with which Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in southeastern Asia, is endeavoring to stem the rising tide of public disfavor.

Information reaching here from Britain indicates that public opinion is growing more and more vehement in its condemnation of Mountbatten's methods.

The Glasgow Herald, commenting on the transfer of Mountbatten's headquarters to Ceylon, says that it will have no other effect than to throw doubt into the public mind and to fill the people with concern as to the future of the war. The paper expresses general lack of confidence in the projected general offensive by sea.

The Scotsman says: "The war communiques from Mountbatten's headquarters are couched in abstract language which makes us wonder whether they are intended to be informative or whether they are trying to hide the facts as they stand. If the authorities wish to prevent public unrest, they must make the facts known in more concrete terms." The same paper, taking up the recent state of Indian defense, warns: "The disagreement among Anglo-American leaders signifies the success of the Japanese operations. Unless a unified policy is adopted India will face a still graver crisis."

U.S. Getting Suspicious

Special

LISBON, April 20.—The shifting of the headquarters of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of Anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia, to Ceylon from New Delhi, and the fresh wave of censorship in India and Australia has evoked a flood of criticism and suspicion regarding the Burma campaign from the American radio and press, according to a dispatch by the Washington correspondent of Chungking's Central News Agency.

The correspondent significantly said that there is increasing suspicion in America that the anti-Axis operations in India are not going on well, and the American public is being warned against the "phoney and optimistic" reassurances from British sources such as those which preceded the fall of Singapore.

He said that the American newspapers are clamoring for truthful reports from correspondents in India, which they suspect the British are suppressing from the outside world.

The correspondent added: "This hush-hush policy has also increased the already widespread reports of lack of unity in the Southeast Asia command, and continued friction between the Anglo-American and Chungking leadership in that area."

20,000 CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON ENEMY IN IMPHAL FIGHTING

Estimate Includes Those of 17th Division Which Was Completely Annihilated

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDO-BURMESE BORDER FRONT, April 20.—The casualties inflicted upon the enemy forces in the Imphal Plains by the Imperial Japanese Forces are estimated to be at least 20,000, including the 17th Division which was completely annihilated.

Units of the enemy 4th Army Corps are now offering desperate resistance at their positions, about 10 kilometers north of Imphal in the face of the vigorous advance of the Japanese Forces driving southward, and at the Palel positions. The enemy counter-attacks are all the fiercer because the northern defense positions and the Palel Fort constitute the last bulwarks for the defense of Imphal. The more vigorous the enemy resistance, however, the greater losses he is sustaining at the hands of the Japanese, who are steadily compressing the encirclement cordon.

The war power of the 4th Army Corps has recently declined remarkably as the result of its tremendous personnel losses which are estimated to be more than 20,000 including the smashed 17th Division. On the other hand, the enemy is running short of ammunition.

In the face of such a serious situation, the enemy command of the 4th Army Corps appealed to Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in Southeastern Asia, who shifted his headquarters to Ceylon Island, for the dispatch of reinforcements, arms and ammunition as well as provisions by air from Chittagong and Calcutta to the airfields around Imphal. However, the units of the 4th Army Corps which is under the command of the headquarters of the enemy 14th Army have been encircled by the Japanese Forces at Imphal while four Anglo-Indian divisions and one West African division of the 15th Army have been stranded at Akyab by the Japanese Units which have advanced along the coast. Moreover, the 2nd British Division, the Anglo-Indian 36th Division and the mechanized 44th Division of the 33rd Army Corps which forms the entire enemy reserve strength in Eastern India are now being dealt heavy blows by the Japanese Forces at Kohima.

Because the general conditions thus do not permit the enemy to shift his troops, the enemy command has resorted to detailing 4,000 troops from Akyab to the Imphal Plains by air.

Now that the annihilation of the 4th Army Corps has now become a matter of time, the more troops the enemy dispatches to the Imphal Valley, the more losses will they suffer at the hands of the Japanese-Indian Allied Forces. Therefore, the only hope the enemy can entertain is the early arrival of "General Rain."

Enemy Defense Shattered

Reposing their last hope in the approaching rainy season, the enemy forces in the Imphal area are offering desperate opposition from behind solid fortifications with the support of aircraft and reinforcements from the rear. Inch by inch, however, the Japanese are wearing down their resistance and compressing the ring of steel, the brilliant strategy and gallant fighting of the Japanese Units steadily undermining the morale of the besieged.

In the northern sector of the Imphal front, the multiple-corridor positions of the enemy protecting Imphal in the rear are falling into Japanese hands one by one under the relentless advance of the Japanese almost at the point of the bayonet. The Japanese are now shattering the enemy defense line and the enemy resistance is steadily weakening.

On the Palel-Imphal Road, the enemy's first line fortifications protecting Tegnopal have almost all been reduced by the terrific onslaught of the Japanese since April 10. The enemy is gradually retreating toward Saibom and Shenam four kilometers to the rear.

In the Kohima-Dimapur area, the Japanese are pushing on westward toward Dimapur, an important point on the Assam-Bengal Railway. The enemy troops in the beehive positions southwest of Kohima were thrown into indescribable confusion

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 5)

At Italian Embassy

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu (left) chatting with Colonel Omero Principini, Charge d' Affaires here of the Italian Social Republic at the Italian Embassy on Friday when celebrations were held to mark the 2598th anniversary of the founding of Rome. The Italian Embassy was also formally opened the same day.

SWEDEN REJECTS ANTI-AXIS DEMAND

Parliament Notified Government Is Not Ceasing Export Of Machinery to Germany

Special

STOCKHOLM, April 20.—Rejection today by the Swedish Government of the Anglo-American demand that Sweden cease the export of ball-bearings, machinery and other materials to Germany was disclosed by the Swedish newspaper Dagens.

The paper said that the Government has advised the Swedish Parliament of its decision, but had not yet sent a note to the London and Washington Governments. It also disclosed that the Government would advise London and Washington that as a neutral it must stand by its commitments.

It is recalled that the Anglo-American demand was sent to Stockholm immediately after the speech by U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull a fortnight ago when he threatened new pressure on neutrals to cease "aiding the enemy."

Swedes Reject Demand

Special

STOCKHOLM, April 19.—The Swedish Government's decision to formally reject the Anglo-American demand for the stoppage of ball-bearings exports to Germany was unanimously approved by the Swedish Parliament meeting in a secret session today, according to usually well-informed political observers. No vote was taken but unanimity appeared in the short speeches of the representatives of the different political parties.

British Stand Scored

Domei

BERLIN, April 18.—The measures taken by the British Government isolating the diplomatic corps in London practically invalidate all the traditional agreements concerning diplomatic corps, commented the Auslands-Informationsdienst, an organ close to the Wilhelmstrasse.

The organ went on to say that the step revealed a surprising lack of respect for the smaller States concerning their rights and that it was in utter disregard to their neutrality. It is no mere chance, declared the paper, that these measures were taken immediately after U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull's statements and notes to the various neutral countries by the Anglo-Americans, urging them to suspend their trade relations with the Axis.

The organ pointed out that the assertion had been made that all neutral diplomats accredited to London were spies and that they had misused their diplomatic privileges for transmitting certain news to Britain's adversaries. Furthermore, the paper said, the British Dominion of Eire, coming under this category, suffered discrimination at the hands of the anti-Axis until now the British Government had cut the last connecting link between the Irish Free State and Britain.

U.S. Navy Bill Passed

Special

LISBON, April 20.—The United States Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee approved the $32,645,000,000 navy supply bill which is the largest in its history, according to a Washington dispatch.

PRINCIPINI IS HOST ON FELICITOUS DAY

Distinguished Personalities Attend Celebrations on Rome Founding Anniversary

Colonel Omero Principini, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Italian Social Republic, Friday was host to numerous distinguished personalities in the capital at celebrations held at the Italian Embassy beginning 2:30 p.m. on the felicitous occasion of the 2698th anniversary of the founding of Rome and the Italian Labor Day which fell on the same day.

Inaugural rites for the new Embassy of the Italian Social Republic were also observed as well as rites in exaltation of the Italian hero, Camilio Borg Pisani, of Malta who last year paid for his devotion to his country with his life at the hands of the British authorities.

Colonel Omero Principini assisted by the members of his embassy staff received the guests, both official and civilian as well as Italian residents of Tokyo and Yokohama numbering close to 100 in all.

Among those present were Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata, German Ambassador H. G. Stahmer, Manchoukuo Ambassador Wang Yun-ching, Chinese Ambassador Tsai Pei, Thai Ambassador Wichit Wicnit Wathakan, Burmese Ambassador Dr. Thein Maung, Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas, as well as Japanese representatives from the Army and Navy.

The proceedings of the celebration, which were broadcast to Italy, ended at 5:30 p.m.

Meanwhile similar celebrations were held at the Italian Cultural Institute, Sanban-cho, beginning at 3:00 p.m. where members of the Italian Fascist Party numbering over 50 attended.

The program which was presided by Captain Enrico F. Rossi, Secretary of the Fascist Party of Tokyo, was keynoted by the speech of Vincenzo Comito, Italian Embassy representative to the Board of Information, which was recorded for broadcast to Italy and an equally stirring speech by Bruno Micheli, Secretary of the Embassy.

The film "Italian Blackshirts" depicting the activities of the organization since its founding was also shown.

The assembled Fascist members then marched to Yasukuni Shrine led by Colonel Omero Principini who had arrived during the latter part of the celebration.

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS HELD

Principini Calls on Foreign Minister Shigemitsu

Colonel Omero Principini, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Italian Social Republic, made a formal call on Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu at the Foreign Office at 3 p.m., Thursday, when an exchange of views on various problems of mutual interest was held.

TOJO EMPHASIZES PHILIPPINE EFFORT FOR FINAL VICTORY

Prime Minister Gives Banquet Honoring Special Mission From New Republic

Gratitude for the unstinted cooperation being given Japan by the Republic of the Philippines for the attainment of final and complete victory in the present war was expressed by Prime Minister Hideki Tojo on Friday night at the banquet he gave in welcome of Benigno S. Aquino who arrived on Monday as Special Ambassador from the Philippines and members of his Mission.

The Prime Minister described as "truly inspiring" and "superhuman" the efforts of President Jose P. Laurel and Special Ambassador Aquino and members of his Mission since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia for "the reorientation of their countrymen's minds and the regeneration of the Filipino national soul."

Expressing the hope that the people of the Philippines will render even greater efforts to cooperate with Japan toward the winning of the war and building Greater East Asia, the Prime Minister said that Japan is determined "never to lay down her arms in this holy war of liberation until the final day of decisive victory when America and Britain are completely crushed."

Aquino Responds

Special Ambassador Aquino responded in Spanish, conveying expressions of heartfelt gratitude from President Laurel and the Filipino people to Japan for "the magnanimous support and recognition which the Japanese Empire has accorded to the independence of our country and for the happy conclusion of the Treaty of Alliance between this powerful Empire and the Republic of the Philippines."

Prime Minister Tojo's speech follows:

"We are gathered here this evening to express our hearty welcome to the Philippine Special Envoy, His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino and his distinguished party and to tender our heartfelt appreciation for the cordiality they have so kindly shown by visiting our country. I consider it a great pleasure to be given this opportunity to express my welcome to Their Excellencies and I feel additionally happy to see the members of the Special Mission so hale and hearty and enjoying the best of health in spite of their long and tiresome journey, accentuated as it were by the rigors of sudden and extreme variation in climate.

"His Excellency, Benigno S. Aquino has come to this country as Special Envoy to express gratitude and felicitation for the assistance tendered by Nippon on the occasion of the independence of the Philippines and the conclusion of the Nippon-Philippines Treaty of Alliance. This very day, His Excellency was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor and the ceremony of presentation of credentials was concluded under the most happy circumstances and the objective of the Special Mission was thus successfully accomplished. I wish to take this opportunity to convey to His Excellency, my sincere congratulations for this happy event and to compliment him for the enormous success of his mission.

Lauds Cooperation

"From the very first days when Nippon unfurling its banner of crusade for the liberation of the peoples of East Asia, with adamant resolution and unflinching determination, declared war against America and Britain and summarily and decisively disposed of the American forces in the Philippines, Their Excellencies present here taking the initiative rendered their utmost for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of their native country, fulfilling their respective responsibilities with zeal and courage; His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino as Commissioner of the Interior; His Excellency Jose Yulo as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; His Excellency Antonio de las Alas as Commissioner of Finance; His Excellency Rafael R. Alunan as Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce and His Excellency Camilo Osias as Assistant Commissioner of Education, Health and Public Welfare. Subsequently, Their Excellencies have continued to give valuable service to their Motherland in correspondingly important posts of trust and honor.

"Soon later the concerted efforts

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 3)

Shigemitsu's Words On War Aims of Axis Lauded in Germany

Special

BERLIN, April 20.—Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu's statement to the German correspondents in Japan on Tuesday gained the keenest attention of all authoritative German quarters, a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman declared today. All the newspapers printed the text of the statement. Mr. Shigemitsu's words about the war aims of the Axis Powers were regarded as especially noteworthy. The spokesman referred to Mr. Shigemitsu's declaration about Japanese ideas of economic activity in Greater East Asia, and drew attention to the Japanese principle of making raw material resources available for free exchange throughout the world. The spokesman contrasted these Japanese ideas with the plans spoken of by Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, and other American war leaders, which aim at an Anglo-American monopoly of all resources and commercial air traffic.

ENEMIES TO BLAME IF ROME DAMAGED

Isono Compares Reich Steps To Save Holy City With Foe's Irresponsible Stand

Comparing the answers made by the German and United States Governments to the appeal of the Government of Eire to take steps for the preservation of Rome, Yuzo Isono, Chief of the Overseas Publicity Section of the Board of Information, on Friday stressed that the blame for any damage to Rome rested entirely with the Anglo-American nations.

Mr. Isono, at his meeting with foreign press correspondents, contrasted the earnest efforts of the German Government to save Rome from destruction with the utter disregard for cultural and religious values of the anti-Axis as shown in the bellicose tone of American President Franklin Roosevelt's reply.

Mr. Isono's comment follows:

"Complete evasion of their own responsibility while accusing their opponent with whatever wanton act that occurs to their distorted minds is the attitude which characterizes the war policy of the Anglo-American Governments. The baseless atrocity stories with which they flooded the world during the first Great War in order to defeat Germany, whose armed might was too powerful to crush is well known to the whole world.

"Now, the question uppermost in the minds of all respectable people of the world, not to mention the followers of Catholic faith, is whether the city of Rome, the sanctum of the Christian religion and the cradle of European culture, will be spared from further vandalistic destruction by the Anglo-American forces. The earnest appeal of the Government of Eire to the belligerent countries concerned for the preservation of that religious and cultural center could not but be responded to with sympathy and good faith by all the belligerents.

"The German Government has made it clear beyond any shadow of doubt that it has taken all the necessary steps to make Rome a militarily undefended city and has definitely given its assurance that there were no military objectives within its area. It has also announced that if British and American bombers continue to attack Rome as they had done before, there would be no military justification for it since only civilian objectives would be hit.

"In contrast to this attitude of the German Government, the reply of Roosevelt is characterized by the complete disregard of the real situation and was couched in a bellicose tone that defied not only the good sense of the world public but the reverential spirit with which Premier Eamon de Valera addressed his appeal on behalf of 300,000,000 Catholics.

"Roosevelt's groundless charge that the Germans are using communication networks and other facilities to further purely German military operations as well as his assertion that if the German forces were not entrenched in Rome, no question would arise concerning the city's preservation, cannot but lead us to suspect the sinister motive of U.S. leaders in the White House to continue to resort to the wanton and inexcusable bombing of Rome in spite of all the pious words uttered by Roosevelt.

"All that now remains is, that since the situation has thus been clarified, if the Anglo-Americans attack the Holy City they will have in addition to the crimes already committed by them, a greater crime for which they must be held strictly responsible."

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE IS GRANTED AQUINO, SPECIAL P.I. ENVOY

Respectfully Presents to His Majesty the Message From Philippine Government

Benigno S. Aquino, Special Ambassador from the Republic of the Philippines, and the four members of his suite were received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor at the Imperial Palace Friday morning. The distinguished Filipino visitors also received the honor of being present at the Court luncheon at the Homei Hall which His Imperial Majesty and His Imperial Highness Prince Takamatsu graced with Their Presence.

Special Ambassador Aquino, attired in morning coat and wearing the supplementary decoration of the First Class Order of the Rising Sun graciously conferred upon him by His Imperial Majesty on Thursday, left his headquarters at the Greater East Asia Guest Hall at Hiroo-cho, Azabu-ku, for the Imperial Palace at 11:30 a.m. together with the members of his suite; Jose Yulo, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Antonio de las Aras, Minister of Finance, Rafael Alunan, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Camilo Osias, Director-General and concurrently Vice-President of the Kalibapi.

Master of Ceremonies Baron Kikkawa Shigekuni shared with Special Envoy Aquino the tonneau of the limousine specially dispatched by the Imperial Household Department.

Amid the enthusiastic welcome of national school pupils who lined the Ambassador's course, greeting the Filipino visitors by waving Rising Sun flags and shouting Banzai, the party entered the Imperial Palace compounds from the Nijubashi Frontal Gate.

Accompanied by Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas who had arrived at the Palace previously, Envoy Aquino and his suite proceeded to the Phoenix Hall.

His Imperial Majesty, attired in military uniform and wearing the supplementary decorations of the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum and the First Class Order of the Golden Kite, and followed by Admiral Saburo Hyakutake, Grand Chamberlain, General Shigeru Hasunuma, Chief Aide-de-Camp, and other high officials, was pleased to proceed to the Phoenix Hall at noon.

In the presence of Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira and Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, Special Ambassador Aquino was introduced to His Imperial Majesty by Ambassador Vargas. His Imperial Majesty was pleased to shake Mr. Aquino by the hand. Through the interpretation of Master of Ceremonies Itsuo Goto, the Philippine Special Ambassador then reported to His Imperial Majesty on his current visit to Japan. After paying his respects to the Imperial Family, Mr. Aquino expressed his gratitude for the presentation of the First Class Order of the Rising Sun and then respectfully presented to His Imperial Majesty the Message from the Philippine Government, whereupon the August Sovereign handed the Message to Foreign Minister Shigemitsu and was pleased to give gracious words to the Philippine Envoy.

Mr. Aquino then respectfully introduced the four members of his suite to His Imperial Majesty who graciously shook them by the hand.

The Filipino dignitaries were then accorded the honor of being present at the Imperial luncheon which His Imperial Majesty and His Imperial Highness Prince Takamatsu honored with Their Presence. The function was also attended by Ambassador Vargas, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, Imperial Household Minister Matsudaira, Grand Chamberlain Admiral Hyakutake, Chief Aide-de-Camp General Hasunuma and others.

After the Court luncheon, His Imperial Majesty was pleased to confer with the Filipino visitors at the Peony Hall. Profoundly moved by the Imperial Graces shown to them, Special Ambassador Aquino and his suite left the Imperial

(Continued on Page 3 Col 7)

Press Comments

Friday, April 21

WATCHING OUT FOR ANGLO-AMERICAN INVASION OF EUROPE

YOMIURI-HOCHI—Various rumors are current regarding the much-heralded Anglo-American invasion of Europe, some saying that it will take place toward the end of this month and others that it is scheduled for May 10 or thereabouts. From many angles we may consider the matter to have emerged from a stage of nerve warfare to that of reality. The Anglo-American bombings which had been aimed at reducing the German air strength are now directed at the transit lines to and from the German bases and important junctions in the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and France.

In Britain, the Government in disregard of international usage has begun the censoring of foreign official correspondence and has imposed severe limitations on transit at home. In German military circles the term "Western Front" has been revived and its importance in deciding the issue of the European War has come to be emphasized.

If the Anglo-Americans allow the troops that have been specifically trained for the invasion of Europe for more than a year to remain idle much longer, their morale is bound to decay. With the war advanced to such a stage as this, it is no longer possible to conduct a campaign of such a magnitude as the invasion of Europe as a surprise. Thus, the feeling of tension that has come over Britain must be construed as suggesting the imminence of a European invasion.

In the event of an actual invasion, how will the Germans meet it? This is a question we leave to the Reich Command. What we must not overlook, however, is that the Germans are not merely resting content in the belief that the Grand Fortress of Europe is so solid as to defy any attempt to make any appreciable dent in it.

Should the enemy invade Europe, Germany would be menaced in the rear. Knowing this danger, the German war leaders for more than one year have been making attacks on the weakest points of the enemy camp where such attacks are most effective in anticipation of the projected invasion. This is clear from the statements of Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler, Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. While the enemy preparations for invading Europe have been maturing, these attacks of the Germans seem to have been yielding greater results. If the invasion takes place and the Germans succeed in dealing a heavy blow to the enemy, Germany will be able to develop these attacks to the full. It is for this reason that the Germans are now waiting for the invasion to commence.

The question as to whether this weakest point in the enemy's armor is of precisely the nature that the Germans judge it to be, and as to whether the Germans will succeed in their attacks upon it is another matter which it is not for us to surmise or imagine. But, it is at any rate clear that success will depend upon the way in which the Germans meet the invading force. We are thus all the more deeply interested in the development of the Second Front.

RECENT STATE OF GREATER EAST ASIA CONSTRUCTION

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The construction of Greater East Asia is steadily progressing in face of the prospective so-called general counter offensive of the enemy. Three indications assure us of this.

The ceremony for founding the new capital of Thailand to be celebrated on April 23 is one; the second is the unification of agricultural administration decided upon by the National Government of China a few days ago, and the third, the establishment of an Economic Planning Board in the Philippines.

Thailand is moving its capital to Pechaburi from Bangkok, a modern city, because of its desire to make an entirely new start as an East Asiatic nation, sweeping away the dregs of foreign influence. This can be seen from the new decree prohibiting commercial transactions on the part of officials and public servants which had been permitted for many years, thus undertaking a zealous work to improve discipline among Thai officials. The spirit of reform and rejuvenation, therefore, is in the air.

It is a well-known fact that the National Government of China has been concentrating all its resources upon increased production, especially since the beginning of this year. To this end, it has transferred all the miscellaneous agricultural administration organs to the Ministry of Industry so that perfect unity should prevail in agricultural administration. This is deeply significant as manifesting the earnest awareness of China's importance as a supply base, on the part of the National Government.

The Philippines has been enforcing a compulsory agricultural cultivation law and emphasizing the use of idle lots so as to increase the production of foodstuffs. The emergence of the Economic Planning Board is expected before long to effect an epochal strengthening of the self-sufficiency of the Philippines.

These indications are all the more important in that the anti-Axis camp is unable to make headway in its military operations. An American commentator moaned that "we have never seen anything like the achievements being made by Japan in East Asia."

BADOGLIO GOVERNMENT CREATES NEW CABINET

Members Include All Parties Except Action Organ; Line-Up Not Yet Announced

Special

LISBON, April 20.—Marshal Pietro Badoglio has formed a new Government which includes all the parties except the Action Party, according to anti-Axis reports from Naples.

The dispatch said that Badoglio is not announcing the members of the Cabinet until it is approved by King Victor Emmanuel III on Friday.

The Badoglio regime has been the focus of considerable attention since the sudden recognition accorded it by the Soviet Union without first consulting London and Washington, which prompted the statement by U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull that the United States does not recognize the Badoglio Government.

2 NEUTRAL VESSELS SUNK

Spanish, Swedish Ships Sent to Bottom Off France by R.A.F.

Domei

BERLIN, April 20.—Another brutal violation of international law has been committed by the British where the Spanish steamer, Jose Illueca, was bombed and machine-gunned by eight twin-engined Bristol-Blenheim planes off the southern French coast yesterday afternoon. The steamer sank off Port Vendres and nothing is known so far of the fate of the Spanish crew.

Regarding the brutal attack by five British planes on the Swedish Red Cross Vessel, Embla, it was learned that the vessel was attacked by five Marauder planes with 12 bombs at 8:30 a.m. yesterday. Heavily damaged by hits amidships and at the stern, the ship sank within a short time. The crew of 27 including one injured were rescued by a German vessel and brought to a southern French harbor.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

April 20

Northeast of Sebastopol, renewed enemy attacks were repulsed with many Soviet tanks destroyed. Moreover, 36 enemy planes were shot down in aerial combats while 20 more were destroyed on the ground.

On the lower Dnjestr, our troops on both sides of the Tighina achieved a full defensive success in the heavy fighting against the Soviets, attacking with several divisions. Between the Carpathian Mountains and the upper Dnjestr, the Soviets were thrown further back in joint actions with squadrons of battleplanes despite the tough enemy resistance.

Southwest of Tarnopol, strong Soviet attacks collapsed. In the rear area of the Central Front sector, several successful actions were launched against Soviet partisan bands, the Soviets losing more than 1,000 dead, over 100 bandit camps were destroyed and substantial booty was captured.

Southwest of Narva, our troops penetrating the strongly fortified enemy positions gained ground in difficult swampy terrain and in the face of embittered enemy resistance. The Soviets suffered heavy casualties and lost 30 guns.

In the Nettuno beachhead, an enemy thrust northwest of Littoria collapsed in the concentrated defense fire. On the Southern Front, the day passed without special events.

American planes sank the Swedish Red Cross ship, Embla, off the southern French coast yesterday.

Enemy bombers raided several places in western and central Germany yesterday noon damaging buildings and inflicting casualties particularly in Kassel and Paderborn. A total of 31 enemy planes mostly four-engined bombers were destroyed.

Last night our fast bombers attacked targets in the London area.

Traitor Bastianini Escapes

Special

LISBON, April 18.—A dispatch from Berne said that former Italian Ambassador to Warsaw and London Bastianini, who was sentenced to death in the Verona high treason trial, had fled to Switzerland. An official communique issued today said that "during the night between April 11 and 12, the ex-Italian Ambassador in Warsaw and London Bastianini illegally came to Switzerland." The communique added that he was accompanied by his son, Lucio, and that both were apprehended and arrested.

TOJO EMPHASIZES PHILIPPINE EFFORT

(Continued From Page 1)

of the entire Filipino people bore fruit and the Republic of the Philippines was proudly inaugurated as early as October of last year and simultaneously with that happy event, the Treaty of Alliance between Nippon and the Philippines was concluded and the relationship of amity and understanding maintaining between the two countries has been continually growing ever closer and closer. All throughout these days, it was truly inspiring for us to witness the superhuman efforts of His Excellency President Jose P. Laurel and Their Excellencies present here striving for the reorientation of their countrymen's minds and the regeneration of the Filipino national soul. With the fiery enthusiasm of true patriots and the undaunted courage and resolution of born leaders, Their Excellencies fought on, drawing their strength and inspiration, founding their acts and policies on the absolute faith and reliance they hold in the Oriental conception of Morality and Righteousness. We bow our heads in deep respect and admiration for the undying spirit shown by Their Excellencies as well as for the brilliant accomplishments with which their unstinted efforts have been so richly rewarded. And to the peoples of the Philippines, may I take this opportunity to express to them, through Your Excellencies, my profoundest respect and heartfelt gratitude for their courageous efforts and incalculable contributions towards the successful attainment of the common aims and aspirations of all the peoples of Greater East Asia which they are so willingly giving, in so large a measure, under the able leadership and coordination of Your Excellencies, all knit and united into one compact solidarity, sworn to the last men to uphold the honor and prestige of the new born Republic of the Philippines.

Stresses Unity

"Today, the war in all its phases has come to assume an intensity and poignancy rapidly approaching the superlative. It is an incontestable fact that at no time was the complete unity of purpose and effort of the one billion peoples of Greater East Asia so necessary as it is today, if we are to maintain inviolate the patrimony and heritage of Greater East Asia for the present and future generations of the East Asiatic peoples to enjoy and and to build therewith in this part of the globe, a sphere of common interest and mutual prosperity. In view of this exigency, it is highly gratifying, not only for the two countries of Nippon and the Philippines, but for the one billion peoples of Greater East Asia, that the Republic of the Philippines, under the able leadership of His Excellency President Laurel and with Your Excellencies present here as the central motivating force, is actively and unstintedly cooperating with Nippon for the attainment of final and complete victory in the present war.

"Nippon, on her part, is determined never to lay down her arms in this holy war of liberation until the final day of decisive victory when America and Britain are completely crushed. Today, in Nippon, the people, united as one, are marching steadily onward with firm and resolute steps, overcoming all obstacles willingly and cheerfully, toward the final goal of complete victory and they have fully effected, in every sphere of the domestic front all preparations and reorganizations necessary to meet every possible requirement for a decisive victory. It is sincerely hoped, under the circumstances, that the people of the Philippines will, on their part, render even greater efforts to cooperate with Nippon for the purpose of winning this war and building Greater East Asia.

"Before concluding I wish to repeat to Your Excellencies my profound appreciation and gratitude for your cordial visit to this country and I take infinite pleasure in proposing, on this happy occasion, a toast to the glory and success of the Republic of the Philippines and to the health and prosperity of Their Excellencies of the Philippine Special Mission."

Mr. Aquino's speech in part follows:

"I am overwhelmed by diverse emotions on this occasion. On the one hand I am still inebriated by the ineffaceable delights enjoyed at the Imperial Palace in the performance of my mission as the Special Envoy of my government; on the other hand, I feel the magnetism of the dynamic personality of the great Prime Minister of Japan. And every time I think that in spite of my insignificance I have been afforded the rare privilege of having been chosen by our illustrious President to be his Special Envoy and to head a group composed of the most illustrious and outstanding functionaries of our government, for a mission of such transcendental significance in Nippon-Philippine relations, I am filled with awe and trepidation.

"Nevertheless, I have endeavored on every occasion to concentrate all my poor resources so that not the slightest stain might mar the limpid expression of the sincere and most heartfelt gratitude of our illustrious President and of all the Filipino people to His August Majesty the Emperor of Japan, to His Illustrious Government, and to the great Japanese people, for the magnanimous support and recognition which the Japanese Empire has accorded to the independence of our country and for the happy conclusion of the Treaty of Alliance between this powerful Empire and the Republic of the Philippines.

"Japan knows and appreciates the value of freedom for not in vain has she enjoyed it since time immemorial. But precisely because of this uninterrupted enjoyment of liberty, the Japanese have not had the opportunity to experience the supreme anxiety to obtain it nor the sublime joy of achieving it, and therefore I have some doubts whether the Japanese can understand and feel as we do the intense happiness we felt upon the establishment of our own Republic and our sincerest gratitude to the generous nation which contributed to its realization.

"It is said that a good thing cannot be truly appreciated until it has been lost. If there is any truth in this saying, we can properly say for our part that we appreciate the true value of liberty because we conquered it in a glorious revolution and lost it once more in an unequal war against the forces of that imperialism which was rampant in the closing years of the last century. . . .

"The present War of Greater East Asia is a formidable conflict between two opposing tendencies: the tendency of the East Asian peoples to secure their natural rights to life and liberty by means of the perpetual establishment of the co-existence and co-prosperity sphere, and the tendency of the Western nations to frustrate such a course so as to perpetuate their own hegemony and tyranny over the vast regions of the Orient.

"Thanks to the marvelous and lightning victories of Japan during the first two years of the Greater East Asia War, the Oriental Sphere of Co-Existence and Co-Prosperity is already firmly established. The realization of their common destiny has at last penetrated into the Oriental consciousness and throughout the whole of Asia the belief is growing stronger that the prosperity and happiness of the entire Sphere are also the prosperity and happiness of every component member. And this belief is the product of the irreproachable conduct, the proven sincerity, the altruism, and the wisdom, of His Imperial Majesty's Government, who have adopted and put in practice in all the occupied regions policies diametrically opposed to the policies of exploitation and oppression followed for so many centuries by Occidental domination.

"This war, which for us is sacred because it is a great crusade for the liberation of Oriental races, runs its implacable course. Recently, the invincible hosts of the champion of Oriental rights have crossed even the frontiers of India. And while in some sectors the Anglo-Saxon armies are held at bay by the defenders of East Asia, the Japanese armies are advancing on other battlefronts, impelled by the indestructible force of the justice of their cause. These liberating legions are backed by one hundred million Japanese, two hundred and fifty million free Chinese, tens of millions of Manchoukuoans, three hundred million Indians, and uncounted millions of Burmese, Filipinos, and Indonesians, and they have at their disposal fabulous resources for the prosecution of a modern war. Final victory may come in one year, in two or in five; the sacrifices which we now impose upon ourselves may last for an indefinite time; but in the long run the final triumph shall be won by the side of justice and right, defended by one billion East Asians who are fully conscious of the role they must play in the new world order.

"I cannot close without expressing to Your Excellency the profound gratitude of all the members of this Mission for this evidence of friendship and deference and without reiterating the assurances of the unshakable loyalty of our people to the cause of Japan which is the common cause of all East Asians. Our loyalty, Illustrious Prime Minister, is not founded on any design of aggrandizement or enrichment, nor on any interest in the realization of our sacred ideals of liberty and independence, which have already been attained. It is founded on the conviction that our independence would be "only for a day" if the Japanese Empire did not obtain in this war a complete and final victory. Only with that victory can our Co-Existence and Co-Prosperity Sphere be consolidated, a consolidation which shall serve as the impregnable wall for the preservation of the independence of all the nations which it protects. What is of importance to the Filipinos as well as to all East Asians is not an ephemeral independence but one that is lasting and eternal.

"Gentlemen, I invite you to drink to the health of our Illustrious Host whose vigorous and wise leadership has cemented and strengthened Asian unity."

PAPERS IN RUMANIA HIT FOE HESITANCY

Ask Why Invasion Was Put Off If, As Alleged, Reich Power Has Weakened

Special

LISBON, April 20.—The question of the anti-Axis invasion of Europe from the west is occupying the attention of the Rumanian press more and more while the military correspondent of the Curentul sarcastically struck at the sore spots of the anti-Axis camp in a mocking manner, according to dispatches from Bucharest.

The military correspondent of the Curentul asked why the anti-Axis was postponing their mooted invasion of Europe again and again. He asked "Why do they postpone it if, as alleged, the forces of Germany are weakened and unable to offer resistance? What, therefore, prevented the British from landing on the European continent before it was flooded by the Soviet armies if they were convinced that they would not encounter serious opposition?"

Sarcastically commenting on the anti-Axis plea to neutrals to suspend exports to Germany, the correspondent asserted, "If Germany were at the end of her resources, as enemy propaganda would have us believe, then the anti-Axis need not have asked the neutral countries to suspend deliveries to Germany. If the Anglo-American terror attack against Germany had, in fact, as asserted, led to the destruction of a greater portion of Germany's war industry, Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, need not have requested the neutrals to discontinue the supply of raw materials for German war industries."

Reich Attack Expected

By Arrangement with the Asahi

STOCKHOLM, April 19.—Various conjectures and questions are rife in London, today as anticipation daily intensifies that a European invasion campaign, on a scale that will surprise the world, is now imminent.

Among the fears widely expressed is the question whether Britain will be able to successfully prevent vital information from leaking out to the Axis nations and whether the expected landing operations will prove a surprise to the Germans so far as the time and place are concerned. It is well known that Reich planes are busy photographing the ports and coastal areas of Britain and that there is no way of stopping this activity. Leakage of information from sources in Eire likewise cannot be prevented.

The view is also prevalent that Germany may not wait for an attack but will launch a protection offensive move to frustrate anti-Axis invasion attempts, utilizing its air force, para-troops and special secret arms.

On the other hand, there are some who hold the skeptical view that the anti-Axis invasion operations will not be started before this autumn at the earliest and that until that time, only nerve-breaking tactics will be adopted.

In planning the coming drive on the European continent, it is also observed that Britain is calculating on the outbreak of anti-German resistance in the occupied areas of Western Europe, immediately upon the opening of the anti-Axis landing operations.

Heavy Losses Anticipated

Special

LISBON, April 19.—The American people have been repeatedly warned to expect heavy casualties when the long-talked of crossing of the English Channel is attempted, says a Washington report received here.

20,000 Casualties Inflicted on Enemy In Imphal Fighting

(Continued From Page 1)

just before daybreak on April 19 and the defeat of the enemy force in that sector, too, is now considered inevitable. Another powerful contingent of Japanese troops has begun advancing toward the northeast and is proving a new menace to the enemy.

The enemy forces defending Imphal, consequently, are steadily finding it difficult to maintain their supply lines with the Japanese closing in upon them from all directions. The solid fortifications around Imphal have been destroyed one by one by the skilled operations of the Japanese. All systematic communication among the enemy positions have been cut and united resistance has been rendered impossible.

In the meantime, in the neighborhood of the southern Indo-Burmese border area, the Japanese attack, in conjunction with the Imphal campaign, is gaining in momentum. A Japanese Unit is advancing northward along the Bhee River and another Unit accelerating its advance on Paletowa, arrived at a point eight kilometers south of Temawa. These moves are proving new threats to the enemy forces.

U.S. Eager to Seize British Naval Bases In West Hemisphere

Special

LISBON, April 20.—Reflecting another instance of the United States imperialistic designs, a Washington dispatch said that the House Naval Sub-Committee today recommended that immediate steps be taken to acquire permanent possession of the naval bases in the Western Hemisphere leased to the United States by the British for 99 years in exchange for 50 over-age American destroyers in 1941. In a report on an inspection of the United States bases, the Sub-Committee said that the American navy had spent more than $130,000,000 on eight bases and added that "having acquired the right to invest still further it would be a mistake for the United States to ever abandon the bases even at the end of 99 years."

SYDNEY NEWSPAPERS WIN IN BATTLE WITH CENSORS

Special

LISBON, April 18.—Newspapers in Sydney, armed with a High Court injunction, resumed publication today, after a one-day suspension caused by the censorship authorities, and one immediately blossomed forth with a sharp plea for "Your freedom to read, think and write," according to a Sydney dispatch.

The High Court yesterday prohibited the censors from interfering with the publication of six papers in Sydney whose week-end editions were confiscated because they contained articles relating to the "misunderstandings abroad."

The High Court judges commented during the hearing that the suppressed articles contained nothing prejudicial to public safety or the defense of the Commonwealth.

Meanwhile, it is reported that the controversy between Australian newspapers and Government censorship was taken up by oppositionist Robert G. Menzies, former Prime Minister of Australia, who demanded an immediate session of Parliament to discuss what he termed an "amazing" affair.

Menzies described the situation as the "most astonishing incident in local history," and charged War Minister Francis W. Forde with attempting to muzzle the public.

Luftwaffe Bombs London

Special

LISBON, April 20.—German bombers struck at England again last night in the second successive night raid dropping bombs at several targets along the sea coast and causing another alarm to be sounded in London, a London communique admitted today. The report said damage and casualties were caused while Britain-based bombers were inactive last night.

N.Y. Stock Market Rallies

Special

LISBON, April 20.—The New York stock market which early this week suffered one of the heaviest sellings on record on account of the reports of the imminency of the Anglo-American invasion of western Europe turned to the rallying side today but it is still lacking the real buying sentiment, according to a New York dispatch.

THE NIPPON KOGYO GINKO
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Capital ¥200,000,000
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Nihombashi—4, Tori 2-chome, Nihombashi-ku.
Osaka—1, 5-chome, Korai-bashi, Higashi-ku.
Kobe—36 Nishimachi, Kobe-ku.
Nagoya—1, 3-chome, Hirokoji-dori, Naka-ku.
Fukuoka—80 Tenjin-no-cho.
Tohoku—32 Omachi, Fukushima.
Toyama—20 Sakurabashi-dori.
Hiroshima—77 Sarugaku-cho.
Hokkaido—1, Nishi 4-chome, Kita-sanjo, Sapporo.
Correspondents—In the principal cities at home and abroad.
Governor: Koichi Kawakami, Esq.
Vice-Governor: Seiichiro Arai, Esq.
Directors: Kenji Ito, Esq., Kisaku Matsushima, Esq., Kikumatsu Nakayama, Esq., Akira Komiya, Esq., Tadao Sasayama, Esq.
Auditors: Count Yoshinori Futara, Takajiro Nozu Esq., Shin Watanabe, Esq.
1.—Loans on the security of public bonds or debentures and shares, estates (zaidan), specified land and buildings.
2.—Subscription and underwriting of public bonds or debentures.
3.—Deposits and safe custody of valuables.
4.—Discounting of bills.
Other Banking business sanctioned by the Minister of State for Finance in accordance with Ordinance.
Dairen, Shanghai.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE IS GRANTED AQUINO

(Continued From Page 1)

Palace at 1:40 p.m. for their headquarters.

Following the Imperial audience, Special Ambassador Aquino issued the following statement:

"I am truly overwhelmed with ineffaceable joy and sincere emotion on this memorable occasion. In graciously granting an audience to the Special Envoy of the Republic of the Philippines and the Members of the Mission and in benevolently receiving their message of national gratitude, His Majesty the Emperor of Japan has once again bestowed a great honor upon our country and accorded the Filipino people the grace of His Imperial Esteem.

"It was truly a rare privilege for us to be the bearers of the message of goodwill from His Excellency the President of the Republic of the Philippines and to be the agents of the Filipino people in expressing their profound gratitude for the recognition of the independence of our country and the conclusion of the Treaty of Alliance between the magnanimous Empire of Dai Nippon and the Republic of the Philippines.

"We shall return to the Philippines fully satisfied that we have been able to comply with the wishes of our President and of the Filipino people and with renewed enthusiasm and resolution inspired by the Imperial Benevolence which, in being graciously accorded to us, has evoked our eternal gratitude."

Special Ambassador Aquino will meet the Japanese and foreign newspapermen in separate press conferences this morning at his headquarters at the Greater East Asia Guest Hall at Hiroo-cho, Azabu-ku.

Mr. Aquino and his suite will attend a tea party to be tendered by Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas in the afternoon at the Philippine Embassy. They will be guests at a dinner party to be given in their honor by Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki at the Foreign Minister's official residence.

Mr. Aquino is expected to deliver a radio speech in the evening.

AUSTRALIAN LEADERS FIGHT OVER CENSORSHIP

Tiff Caused by Menzies and Fadden Demanding Resignation of Caldwell

Special

LISBON, April 20.—Heated quarrel between Arthur Caldwell, Australian Minister of Information, and Robert Menzies, former Prime Minister, and Arthur Fadden, leader of the Country Party, was disclosed in dispatches received here.

Replying to the demands by Menzies and Fadden that he be removed from the Parliamentary Censorship Inquiry Committee, Caldwell said today at Adelaide that shocking revelations which will place both of these men on the defensive will be made when the Committee reports its findings.

He declared that attempts by Menzies and Fadden and others to indict him as chief defendant on the question of the administration's publicity censorship policy was "too stupid for words."

Enemy Loses 400 Tanks

Special

BERLIN, April 18.—More than 400 British and American tanks were destroyed in Italy from January 1 till April 16, according to German military quarters announcement today. This figure does not include the armored scouting cars and most of the 400 tanks were knocked out at the Cassino front.

Anti-Axis A.A. Gunfire Bagged 54 U.S. Planes In Battle of Catania

Special

LISBON, April 19.—"Friendly" anti-aircraft gunfire was the cause of 50 per cent of the losses suffered by the American air force during the Catania battle in Sicily on the night of July 13 and 14 last year, in which they lost 10 transport planes and 43 officers in paratroop operations, the U.S. War Department announced today, according to a Washington report. An army report also disclosed that the army lost 21 planes and nearly 400 men on that night in addition to 23 planes and 410 men lost due to "friendly" anti-aircraft gunfire on the night of July 10 and 11.

ADMIRAL HART REVIEWS PEARL HARBOR TRAGEDY

Claims Huge Losses Suffered Were Not Due to 'Intoxication of Servicemen'

Special

LISBON, April 19.—Admiral Thomas C. Hart, former Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Fleet in the Far East, today issued some statements to the press concerning his official investigation of the tragedy of Pearl Harbor, according to a San Francisco dispatch.

He ironically declared that "intoxication among the servicemen stationed at Pearl Harbor" was not the cause of the huge losses suffered that day.

Concerning the conduct of the servicemen on the evening of December 6, 1941, Hart evasively remarked that it was shown to be "exemplary in comparison with week-end activities elsewhere." He declined to comment further on his investigation pending its completion and his formal report.

Commenting on the Pacific war, he said that generally he found "quite a number of the enlisted men and young officers disposed to be annoyed by the complaints and such things as strikes on the homefront."

POST-WAR DEFENSE BODY IN U.S. HAS BIG AMBITION

Members Say America Should Have Biggest Fleet in World During Transit Period

Special

LISBON, April 17.—The new committee of the U.S. House of Representatives for the study of America's post-war defense policy has revealed itself as a pronounced imperialistic group, the News Chronicle reports from Washington, according to a London dispatch.

According to the interviews already granted by different members of this committee, the United States would have the largest fleet in the world during the transit period, an army of 3,000,000 and later a standing army of 1,250,000 men, the report said.

It adds that arguments for universal conscription of at least one year as well as a strong chain of advanced Pacific bases, and repeated proposals to unite all army departments into one ministry of defense are being heard among the members.

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Capital Paid-up 50,000,000
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THEIN MAUNG HAILS JAPANESE FORCES

Burmese Envoy Says Nippon Fighting to Guard Ideals Taught by Lord Buddha

Voicing his deep gratitude to the Imperial Forces so valiantly fighting to safeguard the principle of mutual respect and assistance taught by Lord Buddha, a principle adopted at the Assembly of the Greater East Asiatic Nations last November, Dr. Thein Maung, Burmese Ambassador to Japan, took the auspicious occasion of the celebration of Lord Buddha's birthday at the Nichi-Menji Temple, Numazu, on April 8 to ask all those present to join with him in praying for the safety and victory of the Japanese Forces.

Following is the Ambassador's address:

I cannot find suitable words to express my pleasure and happiness to meet you all again today and join in your celebrations of our Lord Buddha's birthday. This is a privilege which I cherish so much, and the pleasant memory of today will never fade.

As I watched the proceedings and listened to the enchanting recitation of Mantras by the Bhikkhus, the natural guardians of the Dharma of our Lord, and the sweet chime of the bells, my thoughts went back to a day 3,000 years ago when Prince Siddharta was born in the Lumbini's Park amidst the sweet fragrance of Ingyin flowers.

The future greatness of a person generally shows itself in his youth. Meditative and reserved in manners, the noble Prince fought against the wanton destruction of the lives of young animals wrought about by his cousins of Royal Blood, under the guise of sport, and propounded the Law:—

"If life be aught, the saviour of life
Owns more the living things than he can own
Who sought to slay—the slayer spoils and wastes
The cherisher sustains."

His experience of the ills of life, old age, death and a priest, and how he labored for six years in the Uruwela forest round about Gaya in India, are well-known to you. For 45 years, Our Lord preached and taught his followers how to attain salvation, through Dana (Charity), Sila (Good Conduct) and Bhavana (Meditation). The sermons, now grouped under the title of Tripitaka, are infinite and sublime.

On such an auspicious day like this, I wish to draw your special attention to one chapter only—"The manner and the way we should behave when dealing with the people," he said: "it should be like that of the bee and the flower." The bee takes its food from the flower but never damages its beauty or its fragrance. The bee even helps the flower to blossom forth. Thus our life must be one of mutual respect, assistance and help—a principle now adopted at the Assembly of the Greater East Asiatic Nations in November last, and to safeguard which the valiant Imperial Forces are fighting.

For this, I am sure, I am voicing your real sentiments that we are all grateful to the Imperial Forces, and I would ask you all to pray for their safety and victory. So far, the Imperial Forces are safely marching on from one victory to another and I have no doubt that, in the words of poet, Gyofu Soma:—

"The day will not be far away
When I can cry loud and tell thee
That Sakya Muni's holy land
Hath been set free from slavery."

For over 30 years, I have been working to achieve this, and I am very glad that the goal is to be attained very soon.

In conclusion, I thank you once more for all you have done toward my comforts and for the honor you have given me by inviting me to the holy celebrations.

Honjo Comforts War Heroes

General Baron Shigeru Honjo, president of the Military Relief Board, who is at present on an inspection tour of sanitarium facilities in Kyushu area for the sick and wounded war veterans, visited the Sanyo-so Sanitarium at Higashi Kiha-mura on the outskirts of Ube City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, on Thursday. He expressed words of comfort and encouragement to the men, whose prayers were centered on the one burning desire to recover and serve the nation again.

Budget Policy Set

At the regular Cabinet meeting Friday, with Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and all the Cabinet members present, the working policy of the budget for the 1944-45 fiscal year was decided upon following detailed explanations by Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata. Opinions were exchanged on matters requiring immediate attention and the meeting ended at 11:40 a.m.

Thai Capital Being Shifted to Pechaburi; Corner-Stone Laying Rites Due April 23

Domei

BANGKOK, April 20.—Following the completion of preparations for the transfer of the capital from Bangkok to Pechaburi, the corner-stone laying ceremony for the new capital will be performed by the Thai Government on April 23.

The transfer of the national capital in the case of Thailand is by no means an easy project for it incurs not only the removal of the capital but also the building up of the new capital city. To accomplish this, much efforts and firm determination of the Thai people are necessary. It is obvious that from the remotest times of antiquity, Oriental peoples have been concerned more with spiritual matters than material.

An outstanding example of this Oriental spirit lies in the present move made by Thailand. In undertaking the removal of Thailand's national capital from the metropolitan city of Bangkok to the remote and inconvenient town of Pechaburi, Prime Minister Field Marshal Phibun Songkhram and other Thai leaders earnestly hope to throw overboard all past conventions and build anew a new national capital befitting Thailand as an Oriental nation.

This spirit was manifested by the Turkish people, who following the success of the republican revolution in 1923, abandoned their five-century old Turkish capital at Istanbul and under the leadership of President Kamal Ataturk established a new capital at Ankara, which at that time had a population of only 10,000. It is remarkable to note that within 20 years, the Turks have built up Ankara into a world-famous city.

It is significant to note that the Turks are also pure Orientals. Turkey in overthrowing the corrupt sultanate government, which had ruled the country for five centuries, decided to abandon Istanbul and establish the new capital at Ankara so as to start anew a befitting rejuvenated Turkey.

In this same noble spirit Thailand has decided to build a new capital.

BRITISH TRICKS FAIL TO RETAIN INDIANS

Increasing Number, Ignoring Enemy Propaganda, Join Ranks of Azad Hind Fauj

The British are making frantic and unsuccessful efforts to retain the Indian troops in the Anglo-Indian army the morale of which has deteriorated tremendously, said Second-Lieutenant G, 27, who deserted the British recently to join the Azad Hind Fauj.

When interviewed by the Asahi on the Burma front, Second-Lieutenant G. declared:

"I heard the news about the formation of the Indian National Army over the radio and I also listened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's declaration.

"On discussing the matter with my fellow officers I decided that the time was now ripe for the complete liberation of all Asiatics.

"I joined the Indian National Army during the course of the Arakan operations when I came across some Azad Hind troops during a scouting expedition.

"The Arakan operations were my first experience of actual warfare. During the campaign, the British came face to face with the mighty prowess of the Japanese Forces and they were afraid to march to the front lines.

"As a measure to check the Indian troops from joining the Indian National Army, the British are resorting to all sorts of tricky propaganda directed toward the Netaji. They claim that the Azad Hind Fauj is only a robot army, but we Indian soldiers have become so inured to such lying propaganda that it has no effect on us. On the contrary, we have faith in the Indian National Army and the Japanese Forces.

"The British are also trying to prevent the Indian troops from joining the National Army by dispersing them among the various British corps. Moreover, the Indians are kept continually on the move and are watched strictly in case they should attempt to come into contact with the Azad Hind Fauj troops.

"'There is no discrimination in the British-Indian army,' say the British, but we know better because an Indian officer never rises beyond the rank of a major.

"The fighting spirit of the British and Americans, who are not on good speaking terms with each other, is at a very low pitch. As soon as they are free of their duties they gamble and fool around with women.

"There is a rapid increase in the number of Indian soldiers who refuse to take orders from British officers. On one occasion, when a scouting party encountered some Azad Hind troops, the Indian soldiers under the British refused to fire their guns at their fellow countrymen."

"The Indians get only one-fourth the pay of the British soldiers and they are forcefully recruited by orders issued to various districts demanding that such and such a number of men must be mobilized. If an Indian refuses to answer the call, his property is confiscated and his family is thrown into prison."

Anti-British Riots

By U. KOMATSU and R. KOUMI
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, April 17.—With the Assam-Bengal Railway threatened by the advance of the Japanese-Indian Combined Forces, restlessness and confusion is sweeping over all eastern India, particularly Assam and Bengal Provinces. Alarmed at the development, British authorities are mobilizing armed forces to suppress the frequent uprisings, but such measures have only aggravating the situation.

In this connection the anxiety of American and British authorities was disclosed in the following information reaching here recently:

Driven to utter consternation with the threatening of the Assam-Bengal Railway, American authorities ordered more than 300 Chinese residents in the Ledo area, excluding those who are engaged in preparing meals for American troops, to evacuate on April 5. Simultaneously, the Chinese employed at Chungking storehouses in the vicinity of Dibrugarh on the Brahmaputra River, began to evacuate to Calcutta, completely ignoring the frantic efforts of Chungking to retain them.

Chungking authorities are now vainly attempting to recruit some 1,000 men to fill the vacancies. With the Assam-Bengal Railway threatened, there is no response to the government call. Thus, transportation on the Brahmaputra River is also facing difficulties due to lack of labor.

Influential Indians in Assam and Bengal Provinces among whom the anti-war view is gaining ground, are availing themselves of every opportunity to exhort their countrymen to exercise all efforts to oust Anglo-American influence from Indian territory.

Furthermore, the press, which is an Anglo-American government organ, has been editorially revealing a sudden change of opinion. It ironically admits the incapabilities of Mountbatten's headquarters by advising the anti-Axis camp to strengthen the national defense instead of propagating the futile attempt to recapture Burma.

General restlessness is also affecting Bihar Province causing frequent riots. Worried over the increasing aspiration of the Indian masses for the liberation of their motherland, Field-Marshal Viscount Archibald Wavell, Viceroy of India, has resorted to such drastic measures as ordering police corps to use armed force to suppress rioters. However, it is apparent that such measures will only further intensify the worsening situation.

MANCHOU YOUTHS PLAY ACTIVE ROLE

Labor Service Corps Busy On Land Reclamation and In Vital Industries

Domei

HSINKING, April 20.—Yu Ching-yuan, Minister of People's Welfare, declared today that the greatest task facing the Department of People's Welfare is the successful execution of the labor service program which was started last year.

"The Labor Service Corps aims at a large-scale training of youths both spiritually and physically. It seeks to enlist youths of today destined to be leaders of Manchoukuo tomorrow," Minister Yu stated.

He disclosed that under the labor service program, youths are mobilized for two years of labor service and "instilled with a deeper sense of national service and national consciousness."

Minister Yu said that this year's service recruits, who will be "increased spectacularly," will direct their efforts in channels where help is most needed—land reclamation projects, important industries, regional development works, communications, transportation and hydro-electric generation construction.

He added proudly, "When Wang Ching-wei, President of the Nanking Government, visited Manchoukuo two years ago, he was deeply impressed by the Youth Movement and returned to tell his people of the great successes achieved here."

Pointing out that all the countries in East Asia are engaged in the training of youths, Mr. Yu asserted, "The time will come when an all-embracing youth organization for the whole of East Asia will be materialized and when that time comes, Manchoukuo youths will be more than ready to take their places in the ranks of the youths of East Asia."

CLOTHING TICKETS BEING ISSUED SOON

Those for 1944 to Be Out This Month or Early in May; Details Announced

Clothing tickets for this year will be issued at the end of this month or during the early part of May at the latest. The new tickets will be of three kinds—A comprising 50 points, B 40, and C varying in points according to special circumstances:

In this connection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce made the following statement on Thursday:

Those under 29 years of age will receive the A ticket, those over 30 the B ticket, and special cases the C. The following regulations have been made concerning the C ticket:

Fifty points will be given to infants less than two months old, 80 to expectant mothers, 250 to prospective brides, 15 to those who do not reside in Japan but are only temporary visitors here, 250 to those who are victims of fire or flood, 50 to victims of theft, 40 to graduates of colleges and universities taking up new occupations, 200 to foreign ambassadors, ministers, consuls and their wives, 100 points to other foreign diplomats and their wives now residing in Japan, 250 to members of a ship's crew who have been shipwrecked and 100 to those whose new occupations require uniforms.

Fifty points will be given to soldiers and sailors who have just returned from the front, and graduates of the Army or Navy schools and minor officers who have hitherto received uniforms and bedding, 50 to criminals who have just been released from a long-term imprisonment, 50 to minor officers of the Army and Navy who, having served long in Japan Proper, have been recently relieved of their posts, and 50 to those who have been recently relieved of military service but are now undertaking training at various vocational guidance offices.

A special ticket of 80 points will be given to all repatriates who were forced to return to Japan with nothing but the clothes they had on.

Tickets with 50 points will be given to repatriates going to the South, to Army and Navy probational-officers who will be dispatched to the front upon their assumption of new posts, to sergeant-majors of the gendarmerie who have been allowed to reside outside the barracks, to Red Cross nurses who are undertaking first-aid as a wartime measure, and to colonizers who will soon emigrate to Manchoukuo.

In view of the fact that only 71 per cent of the points in the tickets effective between February 1942 and January 1943 were used, and only 72 per cent during the previous year, it is believed that the new decrease in points will not cause much inconvenience to the people.

TWO FOE PLANE-CARRIERS REPORTED IN ASIA WATERS

British Ships, Indomitable and Victorious Said to Be in Indian Ocean and Pacific

A new British aircraft carrier, the Victorious is in service in the Pacific and another, the Indomitable, in the Indian Ocean, according to the Illustrated London News of April 18 as quoted in a Stockholm report to the Mainichi under date of April 16.

This is the first time that the areas where the two new British aircraft carriers are operating have been revealed.

Both the Victorious and the Indomitable displace 23,000 tons and have complement of 1,600 men.

The Victorious is equipped with 16 4.5 inch guns capable of high-angle and horizontal firing. She was built in 1940 and belongs to the Illustrious class. Among her sister ships are the Illustrious, the Victorious, and the Formidable.

The Indomitable was built a year later and is of the same class as the Implacable and the Indefatigable.

The Victorious is said to have a speed of 31 knots and the Indomitable a speed of 32 knots.

Odachi Inspects Tokyo

The Governor of Tokyo Metropolis Shigeo Odachi, accompanied by Deputy Governor Mitsumaro Matsumura, made a hurried inspection tour of various parts of the Metropolis, including the Tsukiji Central Market, the air-raid-proof factories, water supply and other public facilities.

Chosen Officials Grateful

Domei

KEIJO, April 21.—Chosen officials in the service of the Government-General, deeply grateful for the recent salary raises, retroactive from April 1, held a thanks offering ceremony at the Chosen Shrine at 2 p.m. yesterday when a vow to intensify still further their efforts in fulfillment of their duties was made by all present.

East Asia Round-Up

Chungking Is Disappointed

Domei

CANTON, April 21.—The difficulty confronting Chungking on the development of the northwestern occupied area was disclosed at the meeting of the Chungking Agricultural Society which was held on March 26, by research workers who had returned from an inspection tour of the district. It was revealed that the area was suited only for raising livestock.

Javanese Paper Issued

Domei

DJAKARTA, April 20.—The first issue of a newspaper in Javanese was published on April 15 for the native inhabitants in central Java, where Javanese is in greatest usage. It will be published twice a month in Madioen Province.

Indians To Celebrate

Domei

SHONAN, April 21.—The Provisional Government of Azad Hind Day, which falls today will be observed by Indians here and all over East Asia.

Johore Muslims Donate

Domei

SHONAN, April 21.—A donation of ¥5,000 to the Japan Red Cross Hospital was made by the Mohammedans of Johore Province through the Arab Welfare Association. Sultan Ibrahim of Johore contributed ¥1,000.

Muslims To Meet

Domei

SURABAYA, April 21.—Eighty Khiai Mohammedan representatives from various provinces in eastern Java led by Haji Hasim will gather at a conference here on April 25 at which ways and means for further cooperating with the Japanese Military Administration will be discussed.

Tagalog Pamphlet Ready

Domei

MANILA, April 21.—Dr. Jose A. de Jesus, Secretary-General of the Kalibapi, revealed that a pamphlet containing 1,000 basic Tagalog words has been prepared by the Kalibapi and that the pamphlet will soon be placed on sale.

Boosting Movie Production

Domei

PEKING, April 21.—The boosting of moving picture productions in North China is expected as a result of the decision reached by the North China Motion Picture Corporation for the huge capital increase to 6,000,000 yuan from its present capital of 600,000 yuan.

Increasing Resin Output

Domei

TAKINGEUN, April 21.—The Tozan Agricultural and the Arakawa companies here on Lake Tawar in northern Sumatra are now increasing the output of resin.

Exhorts Code Body

Special

MANILA, April 21.—President Jose P. Laurel urged the revision of the civil code along progressive humanitarian lines in the course of the luncheon meeting held on April 19 at the Malacanan before the Code Committee charged with the codification of all laws in the islands.

Post Offices Open

Domei

MACASSAR, April 21.—In order to perfect the network of internal communications, three more post offices have been opened in southern Celebes, making the total number of post offices in this part of the Island 28 in all or three more than at the time of the Dutch rule.

Song Festival Set

Special

MANILA, April 21.—The premier of the Filipino Song Festival has been set for April 30 with the proceeds to be contributed to the Philippine Red Cross.

Wage Scale Stabilized

Domei

DJAKARTA, April 21.—Aiming at stabilizing prices of daily necessities in Java, the Price Committee of the local administration will fix the wage scale, readjust transportation rates for vital goods as well as enlarge price-pegging systems. This decision was worked out by the committee as a result of two conferences held here on March 15 and April 7.

Hikes Contest Prize

Special

MANILA, April 21.—The Labor Day Committee announced that the first prize for a Labor March musical contest has been raised from 200 pesos to 300 pesos.

Welfare Body Opens

Domei

SUMATRA BASE, April 21.—Inaugural ceremonies were held recently for the organization of an association to look after the welfare of the native inhabitants in the employment of the Japanese Forces in the eastern coast district of Sumatra.

To Honor Laborers

Special

MANILA, April 21.—In order to give due recognition to pioneers in labor field, the Labor Day Committee announced the holding of four different contests as a feature of the forthcoming celebration on May 1. The contests are for the most ingenious laborer of the year, model gardener, model male laborer and model female laborer.

More Bintan Colonizers

Domei

SHONAN, April 21.—With numerous applications pouring into the Malai Welfare Association immediately following the decision to permit Malais to settle in Bintan Island, 100 families are scheduled to leave for the farm settlements at the end of April. Among the Bintan colonizers will be Issao Mahamat, editor of the Malai Shimbun, who attended the General Assembly of Greater East Asia Newspapers in Tokyo last fall.

More Irrigation Systems

Special

MANILA, April 21.—Quintin Paredes, Minister of Public Works and Communications, has instructed all provincial engineers to immediately undertake the work of constructing irrigation systems as a means to increase the food production campaign in the islands.

North China Investments

Special

PEKING, April 21.—Investments by the North China Development Corporation as at the end of the 1943 business year which closed on March totaled ¥731,454,000.

29,769 Aliens Register

Domei

MANILA, April 21.—A total of 29,769 aliens were registered up to April 15, according to Foreign Ministry officials. Of the total, 26,347 are Chinese, 1,315 Spaniards, 382 Indians and 369 Germans. Complete returns will be ready soon.

Youth Corps Formed

Special

JOHORE BHARU, April 21.—Following the appeal made by Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, to Indian boys and girls all over East Asia to organize themselves into Youth Corps and play their part in the struggle for independence, the local Indian youth formed the first unit of this corps on Jallianwala Bagh Day last Thursday. They are learning Hindustani and military training courses.

Studying Business Courses

Special

MANILA, April 21.—People in Bataan consumers' cooperative associations which were recently organized here are now undergoing training along with commercial studies at the training institute conducted by the Bureau of Commerce and Industry at the City Hall.

Culture School Opens

Special

MANILA, April 21.—The new Philippine Cultural Institute in Tagaytay, Cavite Province, held its second opening exercises on April 19 with 63 Filipino youths enrolling for a five-month training as future leaders in the cultural field.

Giving Aeronautic Training

Special

MANILA, April 21.—The Naval Aeronautical Training School here will soon begin to teach fundamentals in aeronautics to Filipino young men.

Java Reclaims Land

Special

DJAKARTA, April 21.—The reclamation of 3,000 hectares of farmland from the notoriously barren Keselir district on the northern coast of Boesoeki Province in East Java by 2,000 farmers who settled there last December is one of the outstanding successes reported by the Foodstuff Output Increase Headquarters here.

The whole development work was directed by Japanese experts.

P.I. Constables Promoted

Special

MANILA, April 21.—President Jose P. Laurel promoted seven lieutenant-colonels of the Philippine Constabulary to colonels; seven were named lieutenant-colonels, 21 made majors and 39 promoted to captainship.

Boosting Electric Power

Special

DJAKARTA, April 21.—The local administration will shortly create a headquarters to develop electric power which will be the nerve center of the administration's extensive plan to bolster Java's power resources.

Vocational Courses Given

Domei

MANILA, April 21.—Realizing the need for skilled labor, the National Federation of Women's Club is now offering free vocational courses.

BUDDHISTS TO PUSH VICTORY ACTIVITIES

Drive Scheduled From May 1 For Rousing Believers to United War Effort

Presenting a firmly united front, the Japan Buddhist Association, embracing all the different Buddhist sects in the country, will launch a movement, commencing May 1, to rouse the Buddhist believers and strengthen their determination to crush America and Britain. The following items have been decided to be included in the program.

On the opening day, May 1, the various chief abbots and other heads of the 28 different sects will assemble at Horyuji Temple, Nara, in the forenoon and hold a grand prayer meeting which will be followed by a conference, to discuss the actual phases of the movement.

Conferences will also be held by the leaders of the various sects in five places throughout the country, including Horyuji Temple in Yamato and Zuiganji Temple in Sendai, for the purpose of attaining a thorough understanding of the 17 Articles in the Constitution of Prince Shotoku and for bolstering the fighting spirit. Subsequent to these meetings, publicity workers will be dispatched to various parts of Japan.

In addition, other activities such as relief for the men in military service, utilization of temple premises, maintenance of nurseries, cultivation of idle temple land, establishment of community kitchens and so forth, will be undertaken with increasing vigor. Furthermore, priests between the ages of 16 to 45, totalling more than 10,000 throughout the country, will sally forth to the farms, mines and airplane factories to engage in active service on the production front.

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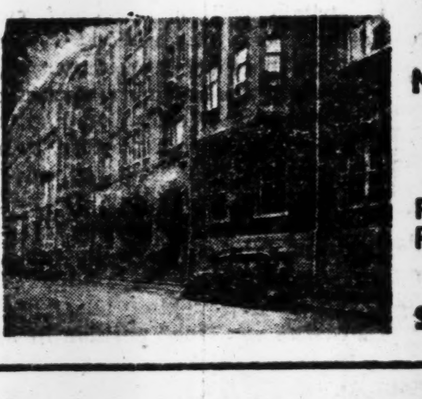

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TOKYO, SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1944

The Protection of Rome

In its answer to the appeal delivered by Prime Minister Eamon de Valera of the neutral nation of Eire to the principal belligerents involved asking them to take measures for the preservation of the holy city of Rome from military devastation, the German Government has once again proved to the world that the full responsibility for the damage so far done to Rome lies, and any further destruction in the future will lie, squarely on the shoulders of the anti-Axis war criminals. The German reply, which was made on Tuesday, most patently reveals that the German Command, long before it received Prime Minister de Valera's message, had already been doing everything within its power to preserve intact and without damage the Catholic world's focal point of supreme veneration. The German reply furthermore indicates that the German forces have even been willing to suffer many military inconveniences in order that the cradle of Western civilization might escape the cruel devastations of war.

The terror bombings of Rome, in which irreplaceable cultural monuments have been wantonly destroyed and helpless civilians—women, children, the infirm and the aged—have been cold-bloodedly slain and crippled, have been perpetrated by the Anglo-Americans under the counterfeit assumption that Rome was being used by the German Command as an integral part of its defense system. The facts, however, are that the Germans have done everything humanly possible to deprive the enemy of any semblance of a pretext for subjecting the Holy City to the risks of devastation. The German Command and all of the German forces have felt deeply their sublime and holy duty to protect this concentration of irreparable cultural and artistic treasures and to save the women and children of the city from the animal brutality of the Anglo-American enemy.

The German Command, sincerely feeling the part it should play to preserve the city of Rome in all its monumental glory, a city which for nearly two thousand years has been the seat of sovereignty of the Catholic Church, has specifically prohibited any army formations from billeting in the city and has banned the establishment of any supply installations. The only Germans in the city have been the wounded and sick in the local hospitals and a small force of security police to support the Italian civil officers. The Germans have also refrained even from using the railway net centering around Rome and have been detouring their flow of men and materials to the fronts so that it would not in any way touch the borders of the Eternal City. Though it is easy to see that this step has caused great inconveniences to the German Command, the Germans, nevertheless, have done just that in order not to give the enemy any excuse for wreaking his fury on the city. The Roman railway network thus has been serving exclusively the needs of Rome's civilian population. All members of the German armed forces have moreover been strictly prohibited from entering the city and only individuals exclusively engaged on behalf of the welfare and security of the civilian population are allowed to enter, subject to strict regulations.

Rome, therefore, is strictly a demiliterized city. The enemy whom Germany fights, however, is of a breed which does not allow any code, moral or legal, human or divine, to interfere with his mad lust for conquest. He has already established his brutal disregard for all religious and cultural values, his unconcealed contempt for all human feeling, by his intentional pulverization of the monumental Benedictine abbey of Monte Cassino, his senseless bombing of Castel Grandolfo as well as by his systematic, attempted obliteration of historical European cultural centers and the accompanying slaughter of defenseless civilian populations, to mention only a few cases. Thus, though the Germans have done all in their power to save Rome from destruction, the Anglo-Americans, with their past record being what it is, cannot be expected to cease their illegal attacks on the city. The continued Anglo-American threat to Rome, however, will be condemned not only by the Catholics of the world but by all of thinking mankind, of today and of posterity.

Competition Within the British Empire

That the conflict of economic interests between the British dominions and their mother country will constitute one of the greatest difficulties in the formulation of their program for more effective collaboration at the forthcoming British Empire conference of Dominion Prime Ministers now looms as a certainty. One indication of this is a report from Montreal a few days ago stating that Prime Minister William Mackenzie King of Canada might be forced by economic and political developments within his country to reject the Smuts-Halifax formula for closer intra-Empire cooperation. This report particularly underlined the fact that the Canadian farmers, who form a powerful economic group, are demanding that their Government adopt an independent economic and foreign policy.

The attitude taken by Canada is not difficult to understand; it is perhaps illustrative of the attitude of the other British dominions as well. Since the outbreak of the current global war, Canada's economy, like that of her other sister dominions and colonies, has expanded and of necessity has undergone considerable transformation. Canada is already suffering from a tremendous over-production of meat as the result of England's recent resumption of meat imports from Australia and Argentina after England had caused an artificial stimulation of Canadian meat production through unprecedented orders when Australian and Argentine shipments were temporarily blocked by the exigencies of the military operations that then prevailed. The refusal of the British Government now to absorb this Canadian surplus on the pretext of shipping shortage, which the Daily Telegraph claims is an outright lie, is hardly conducive to closer teamwork between this dominion and England.

Still another factor which will certainly circumscribe the possibilities of fuller cooperation with her mother country is Canada's rapid and extensive industrialization. Many light and heavy industries, stimulated by England's temporary wartime demand but whose products must inevitably come into competition with English-made goods in the post-war years, have already been established in Canada. Such a change can only mean that, for the protection and development of her own industries, Canada must establish tariff barriers against foreign-manufactured goods, albeit English, and also seek overseas markets.

A more significant development within the British Empire during the past few years has been England's evermounting indebtedness to her dominions and colonies. Canada as well as Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa and other British possessions have great prospects of emerging from this war as creditor nations. Only in June of last year, England had fallen in debt to her dominions and colonies to the amount of £1,000,000,000 even after having disposed of millions of pounds of her investments in these territories and elsewhere. The acquisition of such a huge capital will enable these dominions to set up new enterprises as well as to expand old industries and thus compete with their mother country on the foreign trade markets. The liquidation by the dominions of their outstanding debts as a result of their large favorable trade balances since the war will also be of considerable advantage to them in forming a more independent economic program.

These economic developments can only mean that the friction and opposition within the British Commonwealth of Nations will be intensified to a degree unknown in the past. Not only will bitter commercial competition occur between the British dominions and their mother country but also among the sister dominions themselves. The coming Empire Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers will surely reveal that, whatever may be its achievement, collaboration between the dominions and their mother country in the economic and other fields in the future must remain an empty symbol just as the actual operation of the Ottawa agreement signed at the Imperial Economic Conference in the summer of 1932 with the object of making the British Empire more nearly self-sufficient commercially showed that the divergent interests and protectionist policies of its several units made the program for "imperial preference" a hollow slogan rather than a reality.

A Year Ago Today

April 22, 1943

The Thai Government will recognize Croatia and Slovakia, the Spokesman of the Thai Bureau of Publicity stated in a press conference in Bangkok today.

The Anglo-American Oil Parley

Preliminary Shots Exchanged in the Coming Fight for Control of West Asian Petroleum Supply

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

The petroleum conference between the United States and Britain at Washington has already called forth active skirmishes between the two parties.

The central problem that is being taken up of course is the proposed American project of constructing an oil pipe-line in Arabia and the general question of oil exploitation in western Asia. The United States Government appears to be unshaken in its present policy of securing oil concessions in that area and of carrying out its imperialistic petroleum pipe-line construction scheme, despite vehement protests both internally and abroad.

According to Harold Ickes, chief of the United States Oil Board, the petroleum supply in the United States will be exhausted in the next 12 years or so. The American intention in the present oil project in western Asia is this: to save the domestic oil supply as far as possible by consuming foreign oil, and at the same time to acquire petroleum resources all over the world for future use. Said Ickes: "American participation in the exploitation of overseas petroleum resources is an absolute demand of the United States to guarantee the supply of future oil supplies for her and her allies as far as possible."

Endorsing Robbery

His admission of seizing the oil resources of other countries simply because the United States is running short of its future supply is an act of endorsing robbery, pure and simple. Moreover, his contention that America's resources will run out in the next 12 years is based on no scientific proof. In fact American oil experts have expressed the view that the domestic supply will last at least for several decades. The United States at present has her domestic oil supply, the amount of which constitutes about 50 per cent of the total world output. But not content with this, she is seeking to acquire resources in overseas regions such as Bahrein Island in the Persian Gulf which produces 1,200,000 tons per year, Saudi Arabia with an annual output estimated at 800,000 tons, Egypt which produces 1,000,000 tons per year, as well as Iran and Iraq where an American financial adviser is engaged in activities legitimate and otherwise in order to secure concessions there.

Turning to the western hemisphere, we find that the United States has already monopolized practically all the oil resources along the Caribbean basin, while she is extending her predatory fingers over to Canada in order to grab the resources there. The only regions producing petroleum in the world that remain out of the reach of American hands are East Asia, Soviet territories and European countries under German influence. The much used phrase "He who controls the world's petroleum will control the world" must sound pleasant to the ears of the plutocratic American leaders.

Pipe-Line Scheme

Domination of the world's oil supply forms one of the central platforms of American imperialistic ambitions for world hegemony, because oil is one of the most indispensable war materials. It was in order to realize this far-reaching and inordinate national aspiration that the proposed project of constructing an oil pipe-line from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea, running through several independent nations on the way, was drafted. The immensity of the project may be deduced from the fact that it will cost the tremendous sum of $200,000,000 and will require 500,000 tons of iron and steel for its construction. Moreover, because of the 15 per cent loss of oil on the way, the cost per barrel will be prohibitive. Further, the project is certain to create a new complication with Britain. Because of these adverse reasons, a vehement protest has been raised within the United States itself against the proposed scheme. But President Roosevelt and his men who entertain inordinate ambitions pay absolutely no consideration to financial waste and economic losses which are inevitably bound up with the project, and Harold Ickes has recently declared that the United States will carry out the plan despite all protests by American citizens or Britishers, unless Congress prohibits it by law. President Roosevelt also stated some time ago that he is thinking in terms of the needs of several decades hence when he is proposing the oil pipe-line construction, thus showing his determination to carry it out at all cost.

Britain will be the chief victim of America's oil ambitions. She succeeded in securing the monopoly of the world's petroleum resources during the First World War, and those oil belt lines from western Asia to Egypt are now indispensable for maintaining the life-line of the British Commonwealth. And this very life-line is about to be menaced by the ambition of the United States who is now taking advantage of Britain's weakened position in world affairs. It is small wonder that she should indicate profound apprehensions regarding America's unbridled ambition. The problem of the division of oil in Western Asia now constitutes one of the most serious problems for Britain, along with other perplexing issues such as the Second Front, and the Badoglio and De Gualle regime problems.

The United States' project of acquiring oil concessions in western Asia and of constructing an extensive oil pipe line across Saudi Arabia to be supplemented by the establishment of an American naval base at Haifa, at the western end of the pipeline, will have the effect of completely overturning the traditional British policy of regarding the Mediterranean Sea as her sphere of influence. This menace to the so-called Imperial Route will also mean the abandonment of India by Britain. Thus, the proposed American project is a death blow to Britain's interests.

Concessions Demanded

The United States is demanding of Britain that the latter concede to the former one half of her petroleum resources in western Asia in return for the oil the United States supplied to Britain under the Lend-Lease arrangements. The United States claims that such a demand is highly reasonable as a wartime measure, but nothing can be more exacting for Britain than such a demand.

Now, according to the Atlantic Charter, each nation of the world is entitled to the possession of the world's fuel resources, so that the attempt of the United States to monopolize the oil of the world would amount to a violation of the document of its own making. The document inevitably will lose its international prestige. Moreover, in view of the fact that oil resources in western Asia are not found in any Axis country, the American claim that her demand is a war measure has absolutely no ground.

Simultaneously with this petroleum project, the United States has been supporting a plan of establishing a Jewish nation in Palestine as part of her aggrandizement in western Asia. Although this plan has met a temporary setback due to furious protests by the Arab races in the region, the United States has been instigating and intensifying the existing sharp strife between the Jews and Arabs and has thereby created a fresh international discord in the region.

Britain has been pursuing a very cautious and skilful diplomatic policy toward the Arabs for the purpose of maintaining her petroleum and other economic concessions in western Asia and Egypt, but with the intrusion of the United States, Britain must cope with a new situation in that part of the world. Hitherto, Britain has been showing utmost patience in dealing with the United States, seeing that for the prosecution of the war, she needed American assistance in various ways—so submissive has Britain been toward America that it has aroused the indignation of the British people themselves. However, it would be impossible for her to acquiese to the American demand because it so vitally concerns the Mediterranean life-line of the British Commonwealth.

Protested to U.S.

The London Economist in its March 10th issue has made a gesture of protest against the United States by stating that the attempted American intrusion into western Asia will result in a departure from her policy maintaining close cooperation with Britain and that she is lacking in consideration. The journal asked that the United States abandon its policy and show a spirit of closer collaboration with Britain. On the other hand, American Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox stated in Congress on April 12: "The American petroleum company is likely to be deprived by Britain of the oil concessions it has secured after much effort. Although the American oil firm has paid several million dollars to the government of Saudi Arabia for its oil concessions, Britain has also made considerable loans to that government by taking advantage of its financial difficulty. Faced by this grave situation, the American petroleum company has asked the United States Government for aid." Thus, Knox clearly recognizes Britain as America's rival in the question of oil concessions in western Asia and by his speech in Congress he fired the first shot in the present controversy.

This speech has had wide repercussions in the British press, which quickly gave vent to its anger over his aggressive utterances. The London Times denounced Knox by saying that he is twisting the facts and does not recognize the true intentions of Britain. The Manchester Guardian ridiculed him, stating that evidently he was taken prisoner by the American oil magnates who are highly skilful in buying the members of Congress and other politicians. Thus, the preliminary skirmishes of the Anglo-American oil war are being fought.

Since both the United States and Britain believe in the principle of "Might makes Right" in international relations, their efforts to adjust their differences of views, by means of conferences will prove of no avail. The solution of the dispute will be made only by means of grim force. Both nations are demonstrating by their actions a typical example of Machiavellism in international relations. Moreover, the establishment of an Anglo-American sphere of influence near the Dardanelles Strait is bound to draw keen Soviet attention, so that the problem will take an even more complicated aspect. It may create the beginning of a fresh international war. In view of this fact the Washington parley will be like a carriage with horses hitched to both ends. Its disruption is only a foregone conclusion.

EAST ASIA'S EDITORIAL FORUM

Views of Leading Journals on Pertinent Subjects

Japan Will Win

(From the Malai Sinpo, Kuala Lumpur)

It was a famous American President who once said: "You can fool all of the people some of the time, you can fool some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time" and one expects that this wise saying will have made the American people immune to being doped by clumsy Washington propaganda. However, from the start of the War of Greater East Asia, we have been told that the Americans both at the front and at home did not know what they were fighting for. Dazed by the verbal dope regularly handed out by Washington they have been bled white on the promise that Japan will be crushed for ever and the war bulletins issued to them at long intervals had been cleverly manipulated to hide the real state of affairs. The fooling has gone far, so far in fact, that American war strategists of fame, during last week, were forced to admit that ultimate victory was not for them.

When men like Admiral Nimitz, General Douglas MacArthur and Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling in rapid succession begin to admit that Japan cannot be beaten they confirm the view every intelligent man and woman has held, almost from the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. While these statements serve to sharpen the optimism of East Asians and give more encouragement to the millions of Indians within India to throw in their lot with the Indian National Army and support the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, they also provide the American citizen with the evidence he has long wanted to prove that he is the prize scapegoat of his country's affairs. Speaking to the press at Pearl Harbor, Admiral Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, declared, "Japan cannot be defeated at sea alone" and six days later, General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in the southwestern Pacific, stated in a dispatch from his headquarters "Japan cannot be beaten by blockade and bombing alone but powerful ground forces must be brought into action as well." He described the Japanese Army as the strongest military element of Japan and said it must be beaten before success could be assured, and there is no American war strategist better qualified to express such an opinion than Douglas MacArthur himself. His experiences in the Philippines and the southwest Pacific though none too creditable to himself are sufficient to convince Americans that he knows what he is talking about.

Close on the heels of MacArthur came Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling, former Chief of Staff of the United States Fleet, who said, "Japan can still win the war in the Pacific. The United States needs all the naval strength it can muster to overcome Japan." These statements boiled down mean one thing—Japan cannot be beaten by land forces without the aid of a powerful navy, and the enemy's navy is too weak to challenge Japan in a "do or die" engagement. In other words, the war-weary American has been told that the United States is no longer a first-class world Power. On MacArthur's own admission "it is useless and misleading to talk of short cuts. They do not exist. The old conception of Japan as a predominantly maritime nation based upon her island empire is no longer factual. . .she has become an intrinsically continental Power."

American Duplicity

(From the Shanghai Times)

American duplicity is nothing new to us. First and foremost, the United States professes to be democratic, but in reality she is decidedly the most plutocratic and imperialistic of all nations. Pretending to love peace, she wages wars of aggression. When she is ostensibly engaged in overseas trade, she is secretly spreading her imperialistic tentacles the world over. The Monroe Doctrine itself is an undeniable evidence of American ambition for world conquest, inasmuch as ever since the announcement of this doctrine the American plutocrats have been hard bent upon shutting out all European interests from the Americas, so that the United States may hold an unquestioned economic and political sway over the Western Hemisphere, and subsequently over the rest of the world as well. Another example of similar American duplicity is John Hay's Doctrine of the "Open Door" for China. Under this pretext, the United States has done all that she could to tighten her imperialistic and plutocratic grip on this country and East Asia as a whole, so as to be able to dominate and exploit this part of the world at will and thereby pave the way for the attainment of her ultimate objective to conquer the whole world.

Thus, the American plutocrats are deliberately and assiduously heaping deceptions not only upon the other races and nations, but also upon the gullible masses of their own country. "Government of the people, by the people for the people" is in fact government of the people, by the plutocrats, for plutocracy and imperialism. Such American duplicity, however, had never before proved so baneful to humanity as it did when the United States chose to foist the present global war upon all mankind four and a half years ago by egging on the British plutocrats to try to keep in check the growth of New Germany. Absolutely insatiable will the American plutocrats' greed of gain remain unless all mankind is subjugated under American rule either by force or by deceit. It is therefore little wonder that Washington is prepared to sacrifice all available manpower and material for the prosecution of America's war of world conquest.

Naturally, the United States resorts to all conceivable wiles and tricks to give the impression that she is fighting, if not winning, the war for the cause of durable peace for all mankind. Thus, American spokesmen and publicists make no scruples about telling lies and giving out grossly distorted news and information regarding the present war for the consumption of the anti-Axis public. Otherwise neither Americans nor other anti-Axis nationals would be so foolish as to fall in battle or contribute to their home front war effort in the belief that they are so doing for some justifiable cause. How intent the American plutocrats are upon duping their public into thinking that the United States land, sea and air arms are not losing their battles in the Pacific and elsewhere, was made clearer than ever by a statement published by the Board of Information in Tokyo giving a detailed comparison between the figures of the American army, naval and air force personnel losses as estimated by Japan's Imperial Headquarters and those announced by the United States Army and Navy authorities in connection with the various operations in the War of Greater East Asia during the first twelve months after Pearl Harbor.

This statement of the Board of Information affords a fresh concrete evidence of American duplicity, which is unmistakably at its worst at present The said statement reveals that the United States Government has so far admitted only 32 per cent of the losses its armed forces are estimated to have sustained in men in the War of Greater East Asia during the period specified above. As likely as not the American personnel losses were much heavier than estimated by Japan, because estimates of the Imperial Headquarters are always conservative so far as enemy losses are concerned. Japan is traditionally Koto-dama no Sakiou Kuni, or a country where word-souls prosper. Therefore, every Japanese word uttered has a soul in it. No Japanese can distort or exaggerate facts, much less tell a lie, without desecrating his ancestral gods. This tradition has been most strictly upheld by the Imperial Headquarters, whose communiques are always terse and to the point, full of koto-dama and without any pompous array of superfluous words, not to say exaggeration or inaccuracy. Indeed, we sincerely feel infinitely grateful to the Imperial Headquarters for preserving Japan's koto-dama, in spite of the fact that this Koto-dama no Sakiou Kuni has had to tolerate some influence of modern commercial journalism, which was apparently devised by the Anglo-American plutocrats in order to intoxicate all mankind intellectually and thereby facilitate their world-wide domination and exploitation.

Fruits of Wisdom

Do not press your young children into book learning; but teach them politeness, including the whole circle of charities which spring from the consciousness of what is due to their fellow-beings.—Spurzheim.

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Poets utter great and wise things which they do not themselves understand.—Plato.

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All finery is a sign of littleness. —Lavater.

NEW SPIRITUAL OUTLOOK OF FILIPINOS

Oriental Arts and Culture Being Developed in Philippines

By MOISES B. BAUTISTA
Written for the Nippon Times

Since the declaration of independence, every phase of the Philippine national life has been moving forward smoothly. Metamorphoses of incalculable magnitude and of fundamental significance have taken place and continue to occur in all the phases of the national life of the Filipino people. Among the radical changes being effected gradually is the reshaping of their spiritual outlook and view of life. The Filipinos are developing racial dignity and taking legitimate pride in being Filipinos and Orientals.

During the past regime, inasmuch as the Filipinos were under Occidental domination, it was impossible for them to develop their genuine personality. The very laws of nature which governed them were neutralized by the conventional laws and demoralizing practices imposed by the United States of America.

In the past, the Filipinos were taught that to consider themselves civilized and to be so considered by other peoples, they had to act in the form and in the manner of the Americans; in this way the belief that the distinctly Oriental manner and form were revelatory signs of a lack of civilization and culture surreptitiously infiltrated into the Filipino mind. In this fashion, the Filipinos learned to look upon the Occident as their model in all lines of endeavor.

The Filipinos had their Occidental prototypes who became their idols and whom they tried to imitate. And some Filipinos reached such an extreme that their way of life became an utterly ridiculous incongruity, because being Orientals they had fallen into the tragic situation of becoming total strangers in their own land and home.

But as the will of God cannot be altered or adulterated, not even by the power, nor trickery, nor the cunning ways of the Americans, all that the colonizers achieved, while trying to Americanize the Filipinos, was to produce queer figures, ridiculous puppets and hybrid beings. This was so because the truly Oriental soul of the race could not in any way be transformed.

Awakening to Personality

Since the occupation of Manila by the Imperial Japanese Forces two years ago, and with more vigor and enthusiasm, since the proclamation of the independence of the Republic of the Philippines, the Filipinos are awakening to their genuine personality. Today they feel secure, breathe more freely, act and work in an atmosphere charged with creative movement, happy and confident in their glorious future, based on the solid and lasting achievements of their own sweat and toil.

The Filipinos are now building their own spiritual structure from the soundest native timber, a superstructure designed after the best Oriental taste. In other words, their new home springs from their own soil, without the interference of an extraneous hand and free from the whims and fancies of Occidental architecture. The Filipinos are now making an immediate, absolute and complete reversal of their outlook and attitude as a people.

The Filipino people realize now that a Philippines perpetually dependent on the whims and fancies of the West cannot stand. A Philippines, Oriental in geography, culture and ancestry, tied to the apron-strings of America, is artificial, unnatural, illogical and untenable.

The Filipinos are beginning to feel, think and act as Orientals, and not as Americanized Filipinos with artificial customs and habits, artificial mannerisms of speech and artificial costumes. They now realize that as men of the East they were born in the infancy of the world and as men of the East they shall die in the consummation of the ages.

The schools in the Philippines are now encouraging the development of complete understanding among Oriental peoples. They are giving great impetus to the cultivation of Oriental arts and culture. And they are laying emphasis on the appropriateness and the charm of a simple life. They are encouraging too the growth of racial pride and the complete disappearance of their inferiority complex, in order that every Filipino will feel proud of being a Filipino and an Oriental.

The Filipinos are now turning their faces to the East and are gradually recognizing the unsurpassable magnificence and magnitude of Oriental wisdom. They are now beginning to realize that the philosophy of the Orient is imperishable, since it is the basis of many philosophic systems advanced and followed in the old European world.

In brief, the Filipinos are now casting off all harmful and shameful imitation of the West, and are beginning to practice the Oriental virtues of honor, sincerity, courage, industry, frugality and self-sacrifice for the common good. In the not far distant future, the Filipinos will completely develop their genuine personality as Filipinos and as Orientals.